

# ***LUCHA LIBRE WEEKLY***

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## **LA BESTIA SALVAJE WINS CMLL WORLD MIDDLEWEIGHT TITLE**

### **Defeats el Dandy 2-1 in la Arena Mexico main event**

La Bestia Salvaje (Juan Manuel Carillo Rodriguez) completed his rise from EMLL mid-card performer to certified superstar by defeating el Dandy (Roberto Gutierrez Frias) two falls to one to become the third-ever CMLL World Middleweight Champion. The match main-evented the EMLL card of Friday, September 4th, 1992, at la Arena Mexico in Mexico City, and was the beginning of about a nine-week tour of Friday and Sunday nights at la Arena Mexico — the longest "tour" of the EMLL at their largest arena since the fall of 1989. Just a year ago, Salvaje was a mid-card performer, but in the past twelve months, he has won hair matches versus Ringo Mendoza, Kato Kung Lee I, and Juan "el Huracan" Sevilla, been put over Yoshihiro Asai in Japan, and now won this title. The match did not end as expected, but was nonetheless a super match, rated at \*\*\*\* by correspondents Roy Lucier and David Scherer. Salvaje won two falls to one in 16:42. The first fall went 5:12 before Salvaje rolled Dandy, who's growing a beard and sort of resembles Emilio Charles junior, up in a form of "The Dandina Cradle," but turned it into a submission hold. Dandy used the Dandina (in Spanish, *la magistra*) to win the second fall at 1:51. The third fall saw a strange spot where Salvaje held Dandy in a near-four-minute figure-four leglock, then Dandy got to the ropes for the escape, then immediately Dandy did a *plancha* over the top rope as if his legs weren't hurt at all. They then went to the finish. El Dandy held la Bestia Salvaje up on the top rope for a superplex, but as el Dandy began the throw, Salvaje's second el Satanico grabbed Dandy's leg and Salvaje fell on top for the pin at the 9:39 mark. The replays clearly highlighted el Satanico's interference, but impartial referee Roberto "el Guero" Rangel stood by his three-count ruling, much to the chagrin of el Dandy and his second, Apolo Dantes.

In the semifinal, rudos Emilio Charles junior, la Fiera, and captain Pierroth junior beat Atlantis, el Rayo de Jalisco junior, and captain Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 14:15. Vampiro was counted out of the ring at 3:49 in the first fall; Rayo pinned Pierroth in the second at 4:14 with the superplex (that set up in the fans' minds the superplex as a valid finisher for the main event); and the third fall saw Vampiro submit at 6:12 to Pierroth's camel clutch (in Spanish, *la de a caballo*) but the rudos were disqualified by the referees when Pierroth junior refused to break the hold. The announcers on television were having fun speculating that Vampiro is the son of heel referee "el Gato Montini" since Vampiro is the only tecnico that Montini will referee "fairly" for. Roy gave this \*\*\* 1/4. By the way, Vampiro was the only wrestler on the card who was introduced separately with his own ring music; and, in a related note, they had new graphics: each wrestler's picture came on TV in a trading card!

The *tercera* saw los Nuevos Infernales (M. S. 1, el Pirata Morgan, and captain el Satanico) defeat The Black Magic, Oro, and captain Apolo Dantes two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 14:13. The first fall went 5:11 before Morgan pinned Dantes with a *senton* from off of the top rope; the second lasted 5:42 before Dantes made el Satanico submit to *la tapatia*, the upside-down surfboard; and the finish came at 3:20 in the third as Dantes got up on top of el Satanico's shoulders to do a forward roll-up (called a *rana*) when el Satanico blocked the roll halfway through and held Dantes down for a clean three-count. It looks like Oro is getting the big singles push, apart from his trio team partners Plata and Bronce, as Oro's talent is just too big to ignore. I expected after his victory that el Satanico would be making the belt signals with his hands and waist towards Dantes and issuing challenges, but there was none of that stuff. Magic played face here tonight, and in a funny spot in the second fall, la Mano Negra went into the crowd to bring Magic a cup of water (see last week's Magic match as a reference). Roy gave it \*\* 1/4.

The *segunda* saw Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, el Felino, and captain el Supremo I defeat Ciclon Ramirez, Ringo Mendoza, and captain la Mano Negra two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 13:58. The first fall went to Ramirez as he pinned el Felino at 7:05 with *la huracarrana*. The second saw el Felino pin la Mano Negra with the german suplex hold in 1:56. The third fall saw el Supremo I pin la Mano Negra clean with the power bomb as la Mano Ne

was attempting *la huttacartana*. So we essentially had an all-rudo-win card. Roy gave this \*\* 3/4. The move of the night was done by the spectacular Oro, as he did "The Orihara Moonsault" (*la quebrada*) onto M. S. 1 in the *tercera*

## RESULTS

From this week's television show, here is the result of the main event from la Arena Coliseo in Mexico City from Tuesday, September 1st, 1992: Tecnicos los Mosqueteros del Diablo, los Brazos (el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo de Plata, and el Brazo) defeated rudos los Nuevos Infernales (M. S. 1, el Satanico, and el Pirata Morgan) two falls to one when the rudos were disqualified for continuing to pound away on Porky. Roy gave this \*\* 1/2.

Titanes del Ring had a couple of results that were new to me but aren't too recent. They covered the card at la Arena Coliseo from Sunday, August 16th, 1992 (where la Bestia Salvaje won the hair of Ringo Mendoza clean as a sheet with a power bomb in the middle of the ring in the third fall; the two even hugged after the match). They then covered the card from la Arena Coliseo on Tuesday, August 18th, 1992. The main event saw Triton, la Mano Negra, and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon defeat Jose "el Negro" Casas, Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, and Emilio Charles junior two falls to one via disqualification in the third fall. The semifinal saw Kato Kung Lee senior, el Cachorro Mendoza, and Ciclon Ramirez defeat Cesar Dantes, Kung Fu, and la Aguila de Plata two falls to one when Dantes fouled Lee, and in the post-match, Mendoza was injured and stretchered.

On Thursday, August 20th, 1992, at la Arena Solidaridad in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, the main event saw los Mosqueteros del Diablo, los Brazos (el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo, and el Brazo de Porky) defeat el Medico Asesino junior, Danger, and Ricky Patterson two falls to one.

## CARDS

Another big card was held this past Sunday, September 6th, 1992, at the bull ring "el Plaza de Toros Monumental" in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. The promoter, Carlos Elizondo, managed to even get one AAA-union wrestler to "cross picket lines" to work his show. The main event was a rematch from a week before (in which the rudos won) but, in a very rare match, *this* match was inside a steel cage. It featured rudos el Fabuloso Blondy, The Blue Panther (Panther is the AAA wrestler), and Valente Fernandez versus tecnicos The Latin Lover, Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense, and Mii Mascaras. The semifinal saw -- for the first time for which I have any reports -- Tugboat Taylor in action in Mexico. Taylor teamed with la Fiera and Sangre Chicana versus Atlantis, el Rayo de Jalisco junior, and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon. By the way, a couple of weeks ago, but not at the bull ring, local Monterrey star Stuka (Joel Garcia) lost his hair in a match versus Valente Fernandez.

On Saturday, September 5th, 1992, the EMLL promoted a big card at the *el Palenque de la Fieragym* in Celaya, Guanajuato. The main event featured tecnicos Atlantis, Apolo Dantes, and Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense, as they took on rudos Pierroth junior, Emilio Charles junior, and la Bestia Salvaje.

And yes, Saturdays always means the EMLL at Mexico City's la Pista Arena Revolucion and September 5th, 1992, was no exception. This night's main event had los Nuevos Infernales (el Satanico, el Pirata Morgan, and M. S. 1) facing el Brazo de Plata, la Mano Negra, and el Rayo de Jalisco junior.

Sunday, September 6th, 1992, at Mexico City's la Arena Coliseo, featured a double World Title main event. In the true main event, Jose "el Negro" Casas defended his UWA World Middleweight Championship versus challenger Oro. In the semifinal, Orito and el Felinito met for the vacant CMLL World "Pequenos Estrellas" Championship.

The first Sunday card at la Arena Mexico on this tour, held September 6th, saw a non-title match for the CMLL World Trios Champions, los Intocables del Ring (Pierroth junior, Masakre, and Jaque Mate) as they met their arch-nemeses los Nuevos Infernales (M. S. 1, el Pirata Morgan, and el Satanico).

The EMLL promoted a card on Sunday, September 6th, 1992, at la Arena Naucalpan in that Mexico City suburb. The main event had el Golpeador, el Felino, and el Titan versus Oro, el Metalico, and Ciclon Ramirez.

## NEWS

The newspaper Ovaciones reported that the wrestling season at the bull ring in Texcoco, Mexico (about 45 miles away from Mexico City) would start on October 4th, 1992, and that the arena managers had signed an exclusive contract with the EMLL (that is to say, not with the AAA). . . . Custodia magazine reports just about the most damaging story possible about Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense. It reports in a back-cover full-color-picture story that Vampiro is *engaged* to model/actress Stephanie Salas, the former fiancée of famous Mexican (well, he was born in Puerto Rico but his career is in Mexico) singer Luis Miguel. The story also sarcastically jibes Vampiro's penchant for concealing his identity, saying Salas is engaged to "*Vampiro, Ian, Billy, o como se llama*" (translated, that means "or whatever you call yourself"). . . . The new Arena magazine is out, with el Rayo de Jalisco junior on the cover. Inside, several pages and pictures are devoted to Hulk Hogan, which is odd since I presume the organization

## ***EMLL***

### **News (continued)**

Back to Ovaciones, they are about ready to conclude their write-in contest for an autographed mask of rookie EMLL wrestler el Nuevo Audaz. I always suspect that the paper and the promotion do this every so often just to test how over one of their rookies are. The paper also interviewed el Titan (who may or may not be Ken Rinehurst, ex-The Big Bang and ex-Jack Victory, as reports I've got say that it looks like him but Victory is wrestling in Dallas too). The paper also interviewed the new rookie undercard tag-team of el Halcon de Plata and la Alas de Plata and gave a nice write-up and a spot in Friday's picture index to "los Pequeños Estrellas" la Mascara Magica, el Ultimo Dragoncito, and la Aguilita Solitaria. This reminds me to mention that the opening match this past Friday night at la Arena Mexico, off of television (which aired at its normal 5:00 pm local time Saturday night on Televisa) was the debut in that arena of "los Pequeños Estrellas," as ruditos el Pequeno Jaque Mate and el Pequeno Pierroth faced tecnicitos la Mascara Magica and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragoncito. Now, the EMLL has informed the press that their midgets are to be called "los Pequeños Estrellas" rather than "los Super-Mini-Estrellas." The latter term is a term coined by Antonio H. Pena when he came up with the idea of miniature versions of the stars back in 1989. The AAA minis will be called "los Super-Minis" and the EMLL ones "los Pequeños Estrellas." On a related note, el Pequeno Pierroth, who has appeared on Galavision and at la Arena Mexico before, holds the distinction of being the only midget wrestler not to have jumped from the EMLL to the AAA back in May of this year when the split occurred. . . . The fan club for Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense is off and running, as the papers report that over 2,000 fans have joined just from Mexico's third largest city, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. . . . Titanes del Ring interviewed several EMLL stars in this week's issue. The centerfold interview was of los Mosqueteros del Diablo, los Brazos (el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo de Plata, and el Brazo). In the interview, they issued formal challenges to both of Mexico's two World Champion Trios teams: the UWA champs, los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro) and the CMLL Champs, los Intocables del Ring (Pierroth junior, Masakre, and Jaque Mate). Also interviewed (again, the second time in three weeks) was Lynx, and a strange interview was printed of "los Spectros." This is a trio comprised of el Cadaver de Ultratumba, el Spectro de Ultratumba, and el Spectro junior. It seems that since the AAA on national television revealed that none of these three were legitimately related to the original el Espectro, and that the AAA Espectro was, that these guys have dropped the "E" from their ring names.

### **CHAMPIONS IN MEXICO AS OF SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1992**

**HEAVYWEIGHT:** UWA: Canek; WWA/IWA/ALLL: Mii Mascaras; National: El Rayo de Jalisco junior; CMLL: Vacant.

**CRUISERWEIGHT:** National: Vacant.

**LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT:** UWA: El Villano V; WWA: El Villano IV; NWA: Apolo Dantes; CMLL: Pierroth junior; WWF: The Pegasus Kid; National: Universo Ano Dos Mil.

**JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT:** UWA: Shu, el Guerrero; WWA: Lizmark.

**JUNIOR LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT:** UWA: Vacant.

**MIDDLEWEIGHT:** UWA: Jose "el Negro" Casas; NWA: Atlantis; CMLL: La Bestia Salvaje; WWA: Vacant; National: The Blue Panther; UNIVERSAL Super Middleweight: Shu, el Guerrero.

**WELTERWEIGHT:** UWA: El Celestial; NWA: El Misterioso; CMLL: El Felino; National: Ciclón Ramirez; WWA: El Espanto junior; WWA: EL Coralillo; UNIVERSAL Super Welterweight: El Pantera II (aka America).

**LIGHTWEIGHT:** UWA: Lasser; National: El Rayo de Plata.

**FEATHERWEIGHT:** UWA: The Bird Boy I; National: El Fijjo.

**PAREJAS:** UWA: The Can-Am Express I y II (Douglas Furnas and Phil LaFond); WWA: Los Cowboys (Silver King and el Texano); National: Los Destructores (Tony Arce and el Vulcano); UNIVERSAL/UWF Intercontinental: Pat Tanaka and Bulldog Punish K. T. (Keiti Takayama).

**TRIOS:** UWA: Los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro); CMLL: Los Intocables del Ring (Pierroth junior, Jaque Mate, and Masakre); WWA: The Kiss, la Aguila del America, and Ultraman Dos Mil; National: Los Hermanos Dinamita (Cien Caras, Mascara Ano Dos Mil, and Universo Ano Dos Mil); State of Mexico: Los Guerreros del Futuro (el Guerrero Maya, el Guerrero del Futuro, and Damian, el Guerrero).

**WOMEN:** CMLL: Keiko "Bull" Nakano; WWA: La Monsther (aka The Monster Ripper aka Rhonda Singh); UWA: Zuleyma; National: La Sirenita; Distrito Federal: Lady Apache.

**WOMEN PAREJAS:** National: Las Demoledoras (Martha Villalobos and la Pantera Surena).

**MIDGETS:** CMLL: To be decided 9/6/92.

## UWA RESULTS/CARDS

Well, after the late news of last week, I am left with no new results for this week. Let's see what this week's line-ups were. For the card at Mexico City's la Pista Arena Revolucion on Thursday, September 3rd, 1992, the main event was a *parejas increíbles* match, meaning one rudo and one tecnico per side; the highlight was the splitting up of normal partners los Cowboys/Efectivos (Silver King and el Texano) which would be akin to putting The Steiner Brothers on opposite teams in the WCW territory. One side was el Texano and Canek. On the other side was Silver King and Ricky Santana. That could have been a really good match. The semifinal listed el Tigre Canadiense, el Villano I, and el Villano V as tecnicos versus rudos el Signo, Miguel "el Negro" Navarro, and The Doctor Wagner junior. The *segunda* found los Crazy Star I y II versus Kahos I and el Scorpio I in an all-rudo battle. And, in the *inicial*, el Ojo de Tigre and el Celestial faced los Espantos IV and V.

Meanwhile on Thursday, September 3rd, 1992, about 55 miles northwest of Mexico City in Toluca, Mexico (not where Tito Santana is supposedly from), The Pegasus Kid and Enrique Vera senior faced el Loco Zandokan and Miguelito Perez junior in the main event. The semifinal featured tecnicos Aero Flash and el Coloso versus The Steel Warriors 1 and 2 (in Spanish, los Guerreros de! Aceros I y II), who are managed by el Sacerdote Maldito. The *segunda* had el Dragon Lee and el Gran Apache I versus el Bucanero junior and el Apolo de Oro. And, in the *inicial*, el Favorreal met el Soberbio junior.

The card held Friday, September 4th, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in the Mexico City suburb of the same name (right by the airport) was, I believe, taped to air on Imevision (channel 13 in Mexico City) on Saturday, September 12th, 1992. Their television is now back to its regular time and day of 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm local time (same as Denver time) on Saturday afternoons -- if it even airs. The scheduled main event was Canek, el Loco Zandokan, and The Doctor Wagner junior versus el Scorpio junior, Ricky Santana, and Miguelito Perez junior in an all-rudo battle. The semifinal was all-tecnico as el Villano III, Enrique Vera senior, and el Tigre Canadiense met los Cowboys/Efectivos (Silver King and el Texano) and their partner, The Pegasus Kid (if they're not careful, a good UWA match might break out). Los Crazy Star I y II met el Coloso and el Celestial in the *tercera* while in the *segunda*, el Vagabundo and el Dragon Lee faced el Apolo de Oro and el Scorpio I. The *inicial* had el Migra versus Takeda.

Ovaciones reported that the card at la Arena Isabel in Cuernavaca, Morelos on Saturday, September 5th, 1992, was to feature the debut of a new light-heavyweight tecnico caled "el Baron." It's not James Raschke either. The main event that was scheduled had Canek and el Villano III versus The Pegasus Kid and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow) in another *parejas increíbles* match.

The main event at the UWA/independent card held Sunday, September 6th, 1992, at la Arena Toluca in Toluca saw el Favorreal and Lalo Ballesteros face la Remolino Negra and el Muneco Carinoso (it's a Chucky-doll gimmick).

And, as set up last Sunday, the main event at Naucalpan's el Toreo de Cuatro Caminos bull ring had Enrique Vera senior challenge Canek for the latter's UWA World Heavyweight Championship. The semifinal and *tercera* on this card were both *revanchas en superlibres*, meaning rematches from last Sunday's semifinal and *tercera*. They had in the first las Panteras Rosas (los Villanos III, IV, and V) versus The Pegasus Kid, Silver King, and el Texano in an all-tecnico battle. This was el Villano IV's first match back since his injury/stretcher/hospital job last Sunday. The *tercera* was a non-title match, as UWA World Trios Champions los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro) faced Miguelito Perez junior, Ricky Santana, and el Scorpio junior in an all-rudo battle. I have no word yet on who wrestled in the opening two matches.

## NEWS

Titanes del Ring led its issue this week (cover-dated August 27th, 1992, with a story entitled "*Gigantesoc Fraude, Fraude, Fraude!*") What they mean was that one night after Shu, el Guerrero had won the mask of Korak (Juan Jose Vera, who used to wrestle as el Tawa Vera) in Pachuca, Hidalgo (8/4/92), the two went and did the same *mascara contra mascara* match in Celaya, Guanajuato. This is the first time I have ever heard of any Mexican promotion repeating a stipulation match around the circuit. The magazine also interviewed el Loco Zandokan. They also featured the main event of the card held Friday, August 21st, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in the Mexico City suburb of the same name where Silver King, el Texano, and el Villano III were defeated in three falls by The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow), la Bestia Hawaiana Kokina, and Miguelito Perez junior. They also covered the semifinal from the el Toreo card of August 16th, 1992, in suburban Naucalpan, where el Gigante Samoano Kokina, The Doctor Wagner junior, and el Loco Zandokan defeated el Villano III, el Texano, and Silver King in three very bloody falls. Plus, they covered the main event with its rare el Toreo appearances by EMLL stars *el bocan* Pierroth junior and Casanova. el Vampiro Canadiense. . . . Lastly, I am sad to say that despite many fine people's efforts, no one with a



## AAA RESULTS/CARDS

I have no new results this week except what is listed in the "AAA/Television" section below, and I have news of only two other cards. On Saturday, September 5th, 1992, at el Auditorio General Jose Maria Arteaga in Queretaro, Queretaro, the main event had tecnicos Tinieblas senior and junior (with Alushe) and el Angel Azteca versus The Blue Panther, Cien Caras, and el Angel Blanco junior. The other card saw a *mano a mano* as Fuerza Guerrera met el Volador at la Arena Solidaridad in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, on Sunday, September 6th, 1992. What may be significant in this is that no card (using either the AAA's or any other promotion's wrestlers) was announced for either of local promoter Raul Reyes's two local buildings -- la Arena Apatlaco and la Arena Xochimilco -- where after the August 19th boycott deadline Reyes had still promoted AAA shows.

## NEWS

Actually, this is the biggest story of the week. It has been reported in outlines in Ovaciones and La Prensa newspapers, and has been referred to indirectly twice in Japanese magazine Weekly Gong, but this paragraph will be the first complete factual summary of the situation. The AAA has been negotiating to get a wrestling facility within the Mexico City city limits at which it can promote weekly shows. Every local arena of which I know -- except one -- that seats more than 5,000 fans is already contracted to run either EMLL or UWA shows. It is a fact that not only does the AAA, and its president Antonio H. Pena, want a nice Mexico City facility to run, but that they would love to begin running in the area before the EMLL, its main competitor, gains too much momentum with the fall tour of la Arena Mexico. It can be reported, based on my personal observations, that Pena had been negotiating to run an AAA lucha libre spectacular on Tuesday, September 15, 1992, as close as possible (in both miles and date) to la Arena Mexico, to "disrupt" the EMLL's biggest card of the year (by supposedly burning out the fans although with as much wrestling as is promoted DAILY in this area of over 25,000,000 fans, my view is that a promotion can only burn its own fans out and that another promotion can't, as there are plenty of fans to go around in a city this big) three nights later at la Arena Mexico -- "The 59th Anniversary of Lucha Libre" show. All this ties together as it has been learned that the one remaining Mexico City arena, the 30,000-seat el Palacio de los Deportes, entered negotiations with Pena in May 1992 to be the host venue for this 9/15/92 spectacular, and that the two sides came to so close of an agreement that, in its September 17th, 1992 issue (on page 86), Gong reported that the deal had been struck PLUS that a combination AAA/WWF card had been inked for a November 21, 1992 date. That AAA date is no co-incidence either as November 20th, 1992, is the anniversary of the death of EMLL founder Salvador Lutterroth; so you can see just how cutthroat this war is and how far the AAA will try to go to hurt its rival. El Palacio de los Deportes used to host wrestling shows; it was there that Canek won his very first UWA World Heavyweight Championship by defeating Lou Thesz in October 1978. HOWEVER, within the last week, the September 15th date fell through, for reasons of which I am not certain. The AAA formally announced that it would promote a big "spectacular" at el Centro Civico de Ecatepec (means the Ecatepec Civic Center) in Ecatepec, a small town in the state of Mexico about 35 miles outside the city -- which to you and me might be close but to the average poor Mexico City fan, since it is not on the Mexico City Metro (subway), it might as well be on another planet. This announcement by the AAA of its 9/15 card was made on Thursday, September 3rd, 1992, and was its first public announcement of a 9/15/92 show, which goes to show how tight to the vest all these negotiations are being played. I do not know if the 11/21 date, or any working agreement with the WWF, is still on.

Ovaciones, in its issue of Thursday, September 3rd, 1992, gave prominent play to el Angel Azteca (he was the "picture-index" subject and had an interview) and lead reporter Francisco Arturo Rosas Plata also interviewed the new "bird trio" called "la tertia alada" made up of el Falcon, el Halcon 78, and el Super Halcon (veteran Danny Ortiz). . . . This week's Titanes del Ring interviewed AAA wrestler Winners and el Hijo de Fuerza Guerrera (who is also known as Juventud Guerrera). Both articles had almost more pictures than words. The magazine featured The Blue Panther as the subject of this week's "Metroposter" and next week will feature Fuerza Guerrera; el Volador was the subject of the weekly crossword. They also reported that the finish of the match from 6/7/92 where el Espanto junior won the WWA World Welterweight Championship from el Hijo del Santo saw el Espanto gain a three count over a supine Santito after a blind foul. . . . An article in the September 15th, 1992, issue of Custodia magazine raised a lot of hackles in certain circles in lucha libre. The article purported to be about the differences between the EMLL/UWA union (the corrupt SNL) and the newer AAA union. In the article, an AAA wrestler was quoted anonymously as explaining how in the old days (which I interpreted to mean: in the EMLL or UWA) wrestlers would deliberately cut their foreheads; now they use blood capsules. Either way, the quote is damaging and ridiculously exposing any way you look at it. . . . El Magnate, a new AAA character, has opened up a gymnasium in Mexico City. He is training there, as are AAA undercard workers el Bandido and el Angel Mortal. . . . Lastly before I get into television, their show seems to have been permanently moved to 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm local time on Televisa (channel 4 in Mexico City), where 9:00 pm local time means 11:00 am EDT and 8:00 am PDT. With American football and Mexican Division soccer on channel 4, I expect that this time will hold until at least January, if not longer. Now on to AAA.

## AAA Television

First, here are my thoughts from last week's television taping that aired on Galavision on Sunday, September 6th, 1992, and was taped at el Auditorio Fausto Gutierrez Moreno in Tijuana, Baja California Norte, on Friday, August 28th, 1992. The opener found Superstar junior, Thunderbird, and Ultraman Dos Mil defeated el Picudo, Bronco, and Junior two falls to one, but this was not shown on television.

In the *segunda* las Demoledoras (captain Martha Villalobos, Wendy, and la Pantera Surena) went to a double count out of the ring with captain la Briosa, la Marquesa, and la Venus in a total elapsed time of 16:18. I hated this match - I thought the la Briosa ruda team was just terrible and the only saving grace for me in the whole thing was Villalobos. I thought it was stupid not to DQ the Demoledoras for an obvious unmasking. And I thought these ladies just don't seem to have a lot of talent. I gave it \*.

The *tercera* featured the return of el Rey Misterio to AAA rings; he teamed with el Rey Misterio junior (who did the dive of the month) and Kendo Star only to lose to Psicosis, el Tercera Dimension, and Huichol two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 16:05. A great match. In fact, Psicosis and el rey Misterio junior were working in the five-star range, while el Rey Misterio was the best I have ever seen him. Huichol, legit twin brother of el Loco Zandokan, was fine, though I could have done without Kendo Star's attempts to copy his brother's schtick. It seems to me that Tercera Dimension is an American, but I can't be sure. Great dives by 17-year old Rey junior and Psicosis. \*\*\* 1/2!

El Angel Azteca set up this week's main event by pinning The Blue Panther in the third fall of the semifinal, as Azteca, Super Astro, and el Solar I defeated Panther, el Indomito, and el Cobarde Segundo two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 16:00 even. Pretty good, made better by Doctor Alfonso Morales's commentary (he is SO much better than their other announcers, although he should be told the "Michael Walli Street" character is dead). Actually, local hero Super Astro was way over but looked older, fatter, and slower than I remember. Must be all that good cooking at his restaurant. \*\* 7/8. I think Azteca's losing a little in his old age.

What can you say about the main event? El Psicodelico, el Espanto junior, and la Parca won two straight over Octagon, el Hijo del Santo, and Konnan el Barbaro in a total elapsed time of only 9:29. This was the hardest I have ever seen el Psicodelico work, but he is SO old. He took more bumps on his back tonight, though, than a Junk Yard Dog or a Ken Patera have taken in this decade. \*\*\* for a fine effort all around. La Parca and Octagon were up in the 4 1/2 star range while el Espanto junior and el Hijo del Santo were close behind. But it is the more technically wrestled matches like these that show up Konnan el Barbaro's technical limitations as a luchador. But as a draw, and in the ability to get himself over, hey, he's second to no one but Vampiro. Morales had the funniest line of the weekend in this match, claiming that el Psicodelico is old friends and close friends with Jack Nicholson. . . .

Now let's go to the show that will air this coming Sunday, September 13th, 1992, on Galavision. It was taped Friday, September 4th, 1992, at the "el Palenque de la Expo-92" facility in Cancun, Quintana Roo. The opener was a rematch from last week's ladies' match as rudas la Briosa, la Marquesa, and la Venus defeated rudas "las Demoledoras" (Martha Villalobos, Wendy, and la Pantera Surena), when all three pinned Villalobos in the third fall.

The television opener was the television debut of "la tertia alada" as Super Halcon, el Falcon, and el Halcon 78 teamed together to defeat el Indomito, el Cobarde Segundo, and el Picudo two falls to one. The third fall was really strange as first el Indomito is disqualified but they go ahead with the match and the faces get clean pinfalls anyway.

The next match was interesting with all the "Rey Misterios" involved. The original Rey Misterio, who also wrestles these days as "Bull Raiders," teamed with Oscar Gutierrez, who once wrestled as "Colibri" but now as el Rey Misterio junior, and el Misterioso, who when he debuted was billed as "el Rey Misterio II." Got that? They defeated the rudo squadron of Psicosis (ex-el Salvaje), Huichol (twin brother of el Loco Zandokan), and The Ice Killer, who didn't belong in this match as he isn't a Tijuana-based wrestler like the rest. The tecnicos won two falls to one when el Rey Misterio pinned Huichol with a diving kick from off of the top rope.

The semifinal was a *revanche en superlibre* from the week before, as tecnicos Konnan el Barbaro, Octagon, and el Hijo del Santo finally defeated el Psicodelico, la Parca, and el Espanto junior, as Konnan el Barbaro made el Psicodelico submit in the first. Then, quickly, Octagon pinned Espanto in the second fall. \*\*\* 1/2.

The main event saw The Blue Panther defend the Mexican National Middleweight Championship versus el Angel Azteca, who had pinned Panther cleanly the three weeks prior to set up this match. By the way, I found out that The Blue Panther's title win came Friday, July 24th, 1992, at el Auditorio Municipal in Leon, Guanajuato, as he defeated Octagon two falls to one. The second for Panther was Huichol and for Azteca was the original el Rey Misterio. The third fall saw The Blue Panther make el Angel Azteca submit to the *el rudo*, or it's also called "The Signo Special." It was a cleanly wrestled match with a clean rudo victory. Even though this was the main event at the arena, it aired as the semifinal on television. Oh, bad news, announcer Enrique Bermudez de la Pena was back. \*\*\*\*+ by Roy!

## ***LATE NEWS***

Actually, due to an early deadline at work, this week's late news will neither be so complete nor so late as last week's. I will not have the results from the el Toreo show of Sunday, September 6th, 1992, nor any cards of the sixth. Due to the Labor Day holiday, these late results would not be in until the afternoon of Wednesday, September 9th, 1992, and due to a work-related meeting, that would have pushed the mailing of this issue back until Thursday night (the 10th) at the EARLIEST. So, I will have them next week. Here is the late news that I do have:

\* Roy Lucier reports from the EMLL card held Wednesday, September 2nd, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo de Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, which is available on satellite Morelos 1, Channel 14, at 9:45 pm PDT Wednesday nights. The first match had los Gemelitos Diablos I y II and la Arana defeat el Torellino Negro, el Asesino Negro, and el Poseidon in two straight falls. This was \*\*\* per Roy and the best match from these guys so far by far. The main event featured el Janite, Ciclon Ramirez, and Juan "el Huracan" Sevilla as they were defeated by Ciclon Mackey, la Fiera, and el Spectro de Ultratuma two falls to one. Roy gave it \*\* 3/4; they moves were pretty well-timed. Ciclon Mackey pinned Ciclon Ramirez by blocking *la huracarrana* by dropping Ramirez on his face. Roy says that Ciclon Mackey isn't one-tenth as good as Ciclon Ramirez. Still, a good show for the Guadalajara show.

\* Universal Wrestling Federation in Japan has announced its final 1992 tour of Japan. It will be from November 19th, 1992 to November 25th, 1992. The title of the tour -- "Yes! Los Brazos!" -- says it all. Six of the seven wrestling Brazos brothers will be on this tour. The are, in order from oldest to youngest: el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo, el Brazo de Plata, Robin Hood (who also wrestles as Super Atomo), Super Brazo, and el Brazo de Platino. Other wrestlers will be on the tour, but these are the first to be announced. By the way, el Brazo de Oro is officially the booker for this league. Several luchadores are on tour for Universal now, on the September tour that lasts from September 4th, 1992, to September 11th, 1992. Those booked are: el Ninja Sasuke (billed as The Great Sasuke on this tour), Transformer (billed as Kendo on this tour), Lasser, Momotaro (billed as The Super Dolphin on this tour), Rocky Santana, Casandro, Dos Caras, Takayama (billed as Bulldog Punish K. T. on this tour), Akiyoshi (billed as Cooley Crush S. Z. on this tour), Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada, Shu, el Guerrero, The Black Power II (billed as Power Slam Johnny on this tour), and someone to replace el Villano IV who stayed in Mexico to milk his injury at e' Toreo (The Lightning Kid and The Dynamic Lynn from Minneapolis are also booked on this tour).

\* The AAA announced that next week's television (to be taped Friday, September 11th, 1992) would be taped in Tlaxcala, Coahuila, at I believe "el Auditorio Municipal."

\* Hey, I forgot: David Scherer's grades on this week's EMLL show -- he gave the Supremo win \*\* 1/2, the Infernales win \*\*\* (and reported that there were indeed hints of a Satanico/Dantes title match in two weeks); the rudo disqualification \*\* 3/4; and the main event \*\*\* 1/2 (he originally had it at \*\*\*, but after second thought, took off 1/2 \* for the 4:00 to 5:00 figure four leg lock and the stupid immediate tope by el Dandy afterward. I also heard that that same spot ruined the match overall for ex- and future-talk radio host Mike Tenay of Las Vegas, Nevada (hi Mike).

\* Here is the AAA *Cartometro* (Popularity poll) from the TV show of 9/6/92: Tecnico: El Angel Azteca, Rudo: The Blue Panther; Pareja: El Indomito and el Cobarde junior; Trio: Octagon, el Hijo del Santo, and Konnan el Barbaro; Revelante: The joining of the Demoladoras to the AAA; and The Lance: El Rey Misterio junior's lance off the top rope, *la quebrada* (the Asai moonsault body block) from off of the top rope outside of the ring.

\* There is no truth to the rumor that the real name of the new "el Piratita Morgan" is Kevin Lyon.

\* Based on all of the reports I have gotten, it looks like the EMLL is setting up two big matches for the next three weeks: 1) a *caballero contra caballero* match with el Dandy facing la Bestia Salvaje and 2) a NWA World Light Heavyweight Championship title defense for Apolo Dantes versus el Satanico. It's eerie amost how often that EMLL boss Francisco "Paco" Alonso Lutherroth returns to el Dandy and el Satanico when he needs a big gate or a big match in a competitive situation. These two wrestlers were involved in almost all of the major storylines in the year of 1990 when the EMLL went from a clear second-place to the UWA in terms of attendance and gates to about even with the momentum already in place to become the number one promotion.

\* One of the major things that strikes me every time that I watch the crowd shots on any of the Mexican promotions' television is how many females they draw, from all age groups. I would be willing to bet that these promotions draw a larger percentage of female fans than any other in the world. What's odd about this to me is that much of the storyline in every match is devoted to a basically male ritual of "who is *mas macho*." (I came up with that line before Don King did, anyway.) That's just one of those cultural things that often can be observed and recognized but not often completely understood.

\* I have incuded plugs for some other people lately, but now I am looking for two things. First, I am looking for anyone from Southern California who can get **Box y Lucha** for me regularly in trade for a free subscription. The

## MINI-BIOGRAPHY: THE BLUE PANTHER

It seems that a lot of the wrestlers in Mexico come from one of a few places: Mexico City, Tijuana, Guadalajara, or Monterrey. Each of these areas has its own gymnasium, its own "legendary" trainer(s), its own circuit, and, in many ways, its own culture which in turn creates a different style of lucha libre. Each of the cities I just cited is among Mexico's largest; each is a major metropolitan area. But in a small city in the heart of the broad northern plains of Mexico, away from any major metropolitan area, in a land of *caballeros*, a small band of luchadores has emerged as some of the country's finest wrestlers. It seems that Jose Velazquez, the original el Espanto, was from a city called Gomez Palacios in the Mexican state of Durango. This el Espanto proved to be a big star both locally and throughout the country. One of his relatives (I'm not sure of the exact relation), Jesus Andrade, was born in 1956 and debuted in 1972 as "el Espanto junior." This is the same wrestler who just beat el Hijo del Santo for the latter's WWA World Welterweight Championship. Both Espantos were small (both short and not heavy) and had an acrobatic rudo style that gained them fame as almost technical rudo wrestlers. In that mold came a young wrestler out of Gomez Palacios who would wrestle in a way that both pays homage to his local forerunners and yet is unique among today's wrestlers in Mexico. The Blue Panther was born September 19th, 1960, in Gomez Palacios. Inspired by "los Espantos," The Blue Panther enrolled in lucha libre classes at a Gomez Palacios gymnasium. The coaches of these classes were local stars el Halcon Suriano and Hector Lopez, both of whom have wrestled on Galavision before, and both of whom helped train el Espanto junior. As Lopez and Suriano made their way to Mexico City for occasional dates, they would speak glowingly about their star pupil; one day, UWA co-founder Rene "Copetes" Guajardo listened to the coaches' words and decided to see for himself. Guajardo was impressed enough that he convinced The Blue Panther to come to Mexico City and to begin working undercards on the UWA circuit. In March of 1978, at the "el Toreo de Cuatro Caminos" bull ring in Naucalpan, Mexico, The Blue Panther debuted. During that next three years, The Blue Panther turned out to be quite a learner, as he picked up a number of the basic holds and experimented with them in his matches. After three years as a *limpia* The Blue Panther changed bands and became a rudo in 1981 -- and this was back when a turn in the then-dominant UWA was rare and meant something. Panther proved to be a fine rudo, but was very, very small, weighing then even less than his current 86 kg (189 pounds) at 170 cm (5'7"); and this was during a time when the UWA found new blood in its promotion (heretofore quite uncommon in Mexico) of heavyweights that today has become the promotion's embalming fluid. Still, the UWA promoted UWA World Champions in several weight classes. On Sunday, December 16th, 1984, at el Toreo, The Blue Panther defeated the then-44-year-old el Matematico 1 two falls to one to become the UWA World Welterweight Champion. He kept that title until losing it to Blackman on Sunday, February 9th, 1986, also at el Toreo. Soon thereafter, in November 1986, The Blue Panther defeated Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada two falls to one to win the UWA World Junior Light Heavyweight Championship. Shortly thereafter, in early 1987, The Blue Panther dropped that title to el Solar I, and then relocated to the Tijuana, Baja California Norte area, working for the WWA promotion owned by Benjamin Mora junior. The Blue Panther quickly became a reliable local hero and trainer to many of the younger wrestlers. It was in Tijuana that The Blue Panther won the masks of Kendo and Blackman (Alvaro Menendez). In 1990, The Blue Panther returned to Mexico City, and opened lucha libre classes of his own, becoming the youngest *maestro* (official trainer) in all of Mexico. Oddly enough, virtually all of the wrestlers who signed up for these classes were lady wrestlers, and The Blue Panther quickly became famous as one of the few trainers who would be willing to train men or women. Somewhere along the way, The Blue Panther had picked up quite an extensive knowledge of stretching and submission holds. The Blue Panther was so well respected that he was put into the major UWA lighter-weight tag-team as a partner to Jose "el Negro" Casas, and feuded regularly with Yoshihiro Asai in some great matches. The Blue Panther also traveled to Japan on the very second tour of Universal rings in Japan for the UWA. Still, the push that The Blue Panther had hoped for when he returned to Mexico City for the UWA never materialized, and his motivation and work rate declined noticeably. Then-EMLL-Vice-President Antonio H. Pena, noticing The Blue Panther's discontent, quietly offered a spot in the EMLL (with promises of a renewed push) to The Blue Panther. Sure enough, in July 1991, The Blue Panther jumped full-time to the EMLL for his first time ever. The Blue Panther got his push all right. In August 1991, right before the strike, he lost to Atlantis in one of those matches where he looked better in this loss than most wrestlers do in most wins -- not winning the NWA World Middleweight Championship but showing such technique in stretching holds that he won new fans everywhere. By December 18, 1991, The Blue Panther was on top, as on that night in Acapulco, Guerrero, he made the legendary el Satanico submit to the *la tapatale* submission hold to win a tournament to crown the first-ever CMLL World Middleweight Champion. Then, on Friday, April 3rd, 1992, at la Arena Mexico, The Blue Panther defeated The Love Machine in a mask match that drew what is still one of the two largest crowds and gates in Mexico this year. But The Blue Panther remembered that it was Pena who had rescued his career back in the summer of 1991, and when Pena split from the EMLL to form the AAA in May of 1992, The Blue Panther was there by his side. Pena's promised push still holds; on Friday, July 24th, 1992, The Blue Panther defeated Octagon at el Auditorio Municipal in Leon, Guanajuato, to win the Mexican National Middleweight Championship (the CMLL had stripped Panther of the CMLL belt on June